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Title: Rituals of Oblivion II

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### 3rd Path: Realization

Once the eyes of mortals  
have been opened, they  
see the decision placed  
before them. Comply to  
the inevitable or fight  
for freedom.

The rituals of Realization:

**\*\*Rebellion's Rebirth\*\***

Tearing away from the  
world that one knows can  
be a frightening  
experience, but also an  
extremely cathartic one.  
The exhilaration and joy  
of throwing off chains of  
illiberty and ignorance  
brings surpassing energy  
and strength into ones  
life.

1) Those seeking to know  
release must first seek  
out an emblem of  
oppression and ignorance.  
An overzealous and  
foolhardy paladin is an  
example, as is any other  
person who guards an  
ideal, without considering  
the cost it has to  
others.

2) Speak with them  
regarding their ways. If  
they say that they do  
what they do "Because it  
is right" and offer little  
other rationale, they have  
chosen the path of  
oppression and are a  
fitting example.

3) Take the offender  
aside and tell him of his  
offenses. Of how his  
actions have caused others  
pain, without good cause.  
When he rejects your

reasoning, kill him.

Note: To some, this is a hard step. While the action may seem brutal, the true meaning lies within the act of killing.

The man you kill represents the unrepentent and uncaring leaders of this world.

Though they come acting as holy men and visionaries, they are actually wolves, seeking to devour you. This must be understood. They wield their "virtue" as if it makes them innocent of their crimes. Their sins make them scarlet, but with eyes of Realization, you can see through the facade.

**\*\*Futile Cycle\*\***

To some, they consider the choice of surrender to inevitability as a reasonable alternative to seeking enlightenment. This ritual shows such people the flaw of such a way of thinking.

The first step is to drink readily, eat readily and spend your time in absolute frivolity.

Whatever feels good, do it. Once you have spent the day in this fashion, take yourself to a gravestone, such as in the Memorium ritual.

Spend time considering the meaning of this. If surrender is what you desire for yourself, then short term pleasure is all you can grab. And in the end, you die. All the pleasure is fleeting and gone in that moment. The finest drinks are vinegar, the best foods, nothing more than ash in your mouth.

Repeat this several times,  
to allow for the full  
realization to grab hold  
of you. Do not turn away  
for its inconvenience or  
pain. To do so is to  
abandon not only  
Enlightenment, but also  
hope.

#### 4th Path: Embrace

If rebellion from the old  
is the key to freedom,  
then one must consider  
what is to be done once  
they throw off the old  
chains. So many paths  
take you right back to  
the old ways and the old  
pains. When one lives for  
themselves or for  
something as ephemeral as  
an empire, they are  
drawn to serve short  
term ambitions that  
achieve nothing that will  
not soon be destroyed. It  
is key, at this time, to  
consider the goals of  
what lies beyond one self  
and beyond the world  
they exist in. Oblivion  
offers something that  
few other religions can.  
It offers purity of form,  
giving you a new meaning  
in life. Working for  
something that is not  
only beyond the scope of  
your life, but beyond the  
reach of time and  
Entropy itself. It is a  
chance to achieve  
something that cannot be  
undone. Secondly, it  
offers purity of essence.  
With the new purpose  
given to you, you no  
longer need to fear that  
what you are doing is  
meaningless. With this  
knowledge comes the  
beginnings of a Peace

that cannot be touched  
by this world. A Peace  
that protects you from  
destruction in this life  
and the next.

## Rituals of Embrace

### **\*\*Black Mass\*\***

Time spent amongst those  
who do not follow  
Oblivion, while not  
dangerous, teaches you  
nothing new. However,  
time spent amongst those  
who have committed their  
lives to Oblivion, its  
precepts and its  
tenants are key to  
expanding your  
understanding. When a  
cleric of Oblivion calls  
the faithful, those who  
wish to learn more must  
find themselves obligated  
to come. While the  
events of Black Mass  
may vary, the purpose is  
always the same. To learn  
more and to see the  
world unveiled for its  
flaws, but also for its  
opportunities. It is a time  
to exchange ideas as well  
as knowledge.

Any who take part will  
find it most uplifting.  
Those who find themselves  
given to a moment of  
pause should speak with a  
cleric. Their questions can  
be answered and their  
hearts put at ease. Those  
who find themselves  
excited should seek out  
the oracles, as they can  
instruct them on how  
they can serve Oblivion,  
in their lives and their  
community.  
The Black Mass is a time  
of renewal.

Further rituals for this  
step can be found upon  
attending a Black Mass.

## 5th Path: Peace

Once one has found their  
inner and outer purity  
they will notice a change.  
No longer do they accept  
the world as a flawed  
and weak inevitability, but  
rather as something ready  
to be changed and made  
better.

### Rituals of Peace

To those who reach this  
path, I call you not  
"student", but "brother".  
While there is still much  
to learn, you do it along  
side your brethren, no  
longer at their feet.  
Rejoice, brother. You  
have been prepared for  
the world. Now prepare  
the world for its final  
step towards purity.

"All is as it should be.  
Oblivion is evercoming and  
never ceasing. Blessed are  
those that hasten the  
day of its triumph, for  
they bring peace where  
there is pain. They bring  
the sweet silence of  
eternal rest. It is most  
splended."  
Azalin, High Lich Lord of  
the Order of the Ebon  
Skull